

Abstract

Diploma thesis „The Czech Senate and its role in international relations of the Czech Republic“ deals with the Czech Senate, its style of functioning and influence on international relations of the Czech Republic, with special attention to the relation between the Czech Republic and European Union.

First, we shall deal with the role of the Senate in the international relations of the Czech Republic, as regards the relations between The Czech Senate and European Union and parliamentary diplomacy as well.

After that will come our empirical research. We shall deal with the same questions as in the previous part, however, we will use a different method and compare the results of our research with concepts introduced in the theoretical part. As a result, we will identify the differences between theoretical possibilities of the Senate in this area and its real working. In the part about the style of the Senate, first, we shall show the style of functioning of the Senate according to the chosen literature. We will be interested in the following questions: the atmosphere in the Senate, the relations among senators, hierarchy of the senators and particular committees. In more detail we will focus on two committees, the Committee on EU Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security.

One chapter will be dedicated to the unconstitutional activities of the Senate.

In the part about the influence of the Czech Senate in the area of the EU legislation we will be interested in the changes which the Lisbon Treaty brought with regard to parliaments of the member states. We will describe the reaction of the Czech Senate on the forementioned treaty and also the position of the Foreign Relations Department of the Senate Chancellery.

In the last part concerning the role of the Senate in the international relations in general we shall analyse the importance of parliamentary diplomacy and its significance in the Senate.

In the conclusion we sum up and evaluate the results.